



OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 2014



From the Desk of Jerry Egger

Thank you for welcoming me into your church family as Transitional Minister. My wife, Marge, and I feel like friends of the congregation anyway, having worshiped at OVPC off and on since we moved to the area in January 2013. It is a special privilege to be asked to lead the congregation through this transitional time.

The Role of Transitional Minister

The contract with Session is for one year, renewable at will. My expectation is that our work together will take more than one year but less than two, but that is just a guess. When the church is ready to call an installed pastor, my connection will diminish, then cease altogether. So in this regard, embarking on the interim period together is the start of a long goodbye to me and Marge.

The temporary nature of an interim time can work to everyone's advantage. There is a big blue sky for new ideas and plans, unencumbered by the past. Thoughts and feelings about the church, even negative thoughts and feelings, can be shared without jeopardy to long-term relationships. Conscious awareness of "how much time this is taking" can spur decisions and active participation.

My role as Transitional Minister is to take notice of where the church is, at the present moment, along the long arc of its development, from origins to its bright future. The week-to-week life and ministries of the church, though important for the transitional minister to manage and maintain, are more meaningful as data about what the church is becoming.

Tasks of Transitional Ministry

There are five over-arching tasks that we will accomplish together during the interim period.

The first task is to come to terms with the church's **history**. The period between installed pastors is an ideal time to assess OVPC's role in the history of the Ocean View community. Our cemetery is a silent witness to the people who have shaped this area; I hope we can give voice to some of those people. In any congregational history are periods of growth or excitement, as well as periods of stagnation or anxiety. We can learn from our past ups and downs. Recent history (that is, within living memory) may hold some dreams as well as nightmares that are worth reflection. In my home visits and other private conversations, I want to hear those memories.

The second great task is to put into words the church's current **identity**. As part of this task, Session will undertake a study to uncover missional opportunities. The Congregational Leadership Team has already proposed new initiatives in the areas of outreach and member involvement. The task is simply to put a vision into words. What is unique about this congregation? Why do we enjoy being together? How is God's work being accomplished? Have you ever heard of The Elevator Speech? If you are trying to sell yourself as a potential employee (or supplier), you practice a 30-second answer to the ice-breaking question, "Tell me about yourself." By this coming winter, I want every member to be able to give The Elevator Speech about Ocean View Presbyterian.

The third task concerns congregational **leadership**. Sometimes the very presence of a temporary minister promotes voluntary changes in board membership. Sometimes the temporary minister can see areas of overlap in service among volunteers, or areas that are being overlooked. In any vital congregation like OVPC, leaders get burned out and need a break. As new people come to church events for the first time, out of curiosity, they should get the impression that there is room for them to contribute time and talents.

The fourth transitional task, one at which Ocean View Presbyterian already excels, is maintaining ties with the **denomination**, PCUSA. By its very nature, the transitional period involves coordination with the Presbytery. Appointment of the Transition Team was urged by the Executive Presbyter, Rev. Jim Moseley. The transitional minister's contract is signed by the Committee on Ministry, to which the minister is accountable. Eventually, the congregation will elect a Pastor Nominating Committee, which will be assisted by a liaison with the Committee on Ministry in the evaluation of pastor candidates. Our Presbyterian connectional system assures that no church is isolated during the time between called pastors.

Once the Pastor Nominating Committee has begun work, the congregation will be into the fifth transitional task, committing to **new ministries**. The work up to this point has been to affirm historic and denominational ties while opening the church to new ministries and new leadership. The fifth great task of the transition is to bring all these inputs into harmony. Many needs will have been uncovered; the final phase will establish readiness for moving forward under a new pastor.

A Rewarding Time

I look forward to our months together as a time of celebration of the many strengths of Ocean View Presbyterian Church. Together we will shape the future of this congregation for a new generation.

"Now Autumn's fire burns slowly along the woods."
William Allingham

Ocean View Presbyterian Church

67 Central Avenue
Ocean View, DE
19970

Service
Sunday, 9:30 A.M.

Interim Pastor
Jerry Egger

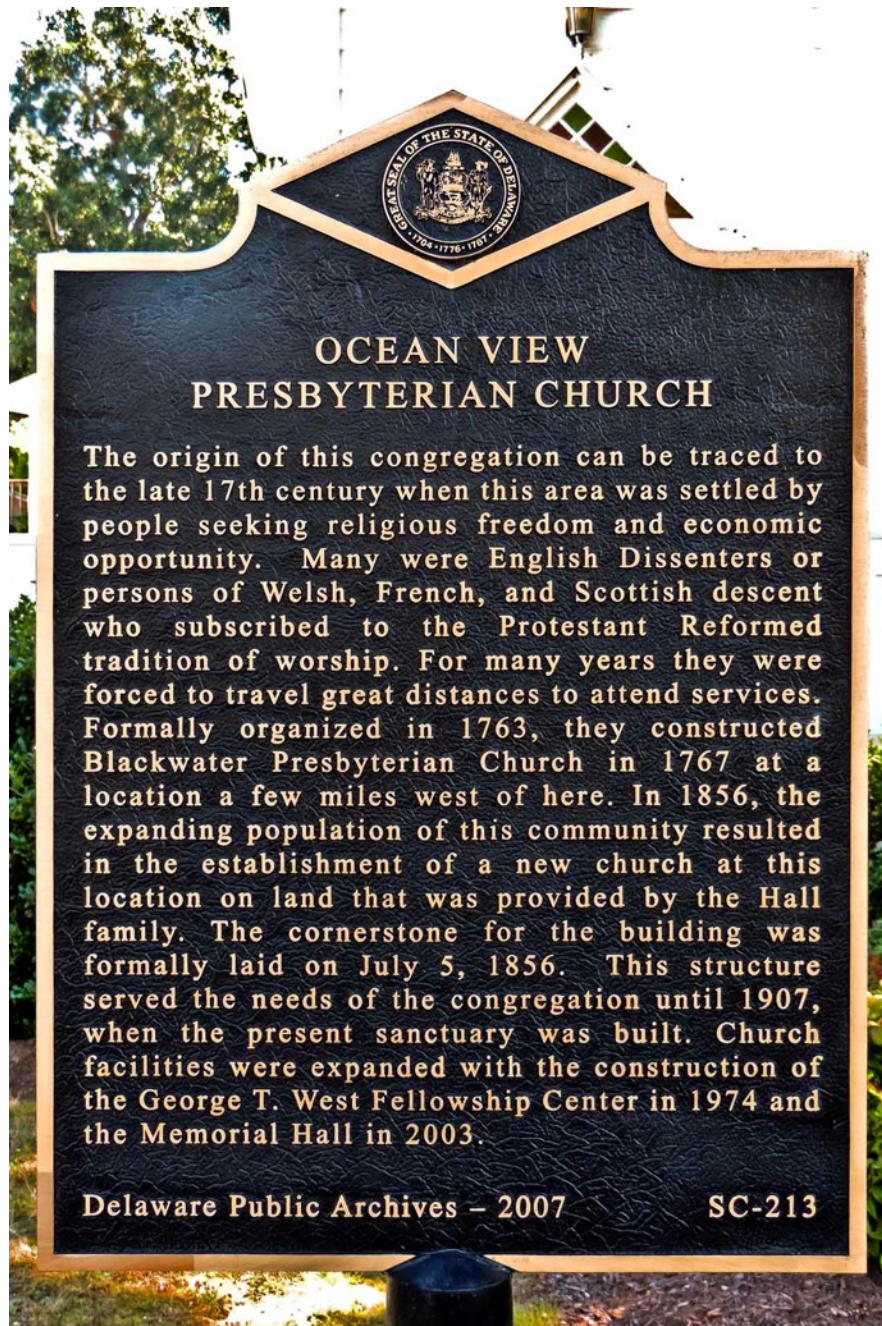
Church Office
302-539-3455

Website
ovpc.org

Session
Carole Trent
Karen Colwill
Don Bailey
Bob Wolf
Jennifer Read
Herb Sheetz

Deacons
Mike Read
Jane Sergison
Jim Hartsig
Bill Colwill
Amy Peoples
Ollie Robling

Newsletter Editors
Lorie and Jim Hartsig
Send submissions to:
newsletter@ovpc.org



OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The origin of this congregation can be traced to the late 17th century when this area was settled by people seeking religious freedom and economic opportunity. Many were English Dissenters or persons of Welsh, French, and Scottish descent who subscribed to the Protestant Reformed tradition of worship. For many years they were forced to travel great distances to attend services. Formally organized in 1763, they constructed Blackwater Presbyterian Church in 1767 at a location a few miles west of here. In 1856, the expanding population of this community resulted in the establishment of a new church at this location on land that was provided by the Hall family. The cornerstone for the building was formally laid on July 5, 1856. This structure served the needs of the congregation until 1907, when the present sanctuary was built. Church facilities were expanded with the construction of the George T. West Fellowship Center in 1974 and the Memorial Hall in 2003.

Delaware Public Archives – 2007

SC-213

SENSE OF HISTORY

*Historic Marker unveiled May 20, 2007 in front of
Ocean View Presbyterian Church.*

Presbyterians have been active in the Ocean View
community since the 18th century.

The sanctuary in which we worship today is over 100
years old.



....From The Editors

Lorie and Jim Hartsig

Telling Our Stories

Our Big Jaunt this month was to Colorado, spending ten days with special people in our lives whom we have known for 45 years. We called ourselves the “Mothers

Club” back then as we met in childbirth classes and later formed a support group for new moms and dads. We renamed ourselves the Divas and Darlings along the way as four couples retired to the west coast and four of us stayed east. Nonetheless, we have remained close, sharing the troublesome and questioning deaths of children, grandchildren and parents. None of us expected that one of us would die so soon, but news of Barb’s unexpected death came in March. The purpose of this reunion was to celebrate her life and somehow make sense of it. For four days we told our stories and remembered special ways Barb had added to our lives. Tears, laughter and remembering...and always the stories. We laughed and said that as we grow older these familiar stories will become “new” stories.

Everyone has a story. Our church has a story. As Jerry has stated in this newsletter, telling our stories is part of what we need to do in this transition time. Jim and I have not heard all these stories nor are we well acquainted with the rich history OVPC offers. We look forward to learning more and hope those with this knowledge will share with the rest of us.

In Roger Nicholson’s book *Temporary Shepherds/A Congregational Handbook for Interim Ministry*, it is stated that “Story telling and listening times might take place formally or informally, or both. They might be planned for committee meetings, small groups, or all-church pot luck suppers.” Sounds like a great idea we should pursue.

Worship Wanderings

Cathy Yantz

World Communion is Sunday, October 5th this year. To help us remember that The Lord’s Supper is being shared by Christians all over the world, we will hear The Lord’s Prayer in French, Italian, and Spanish. The bread used at the table will represent the many breads used around the world. We will decorate the Sanctuary with clothes and fabrics from many different countries. Let us remember that the Love of the Lord knows no differences and has no borders.

★HAPPY★
BIRTHDAY!

Nok Schwartz	Oct. 2
Carole Trent	Oct. 7
Janet Anderson	Oct. 9
Elsie Young	Oct. 9
Carol Kratch	Oct. 12
Charlotte Wheatley	Oct. 14
Lorie Hartsig	Oct. 20
Oliver Robling	Oct. 25
Bob Turner	Oct. 27

Happy
Anniversary

Nancy and Bob Turner	Oct. 7
Allene and Jamie Martinez	Oct. 10
Earlene and Al DeFazio	Oct. 23

"Even if something is left undone, everyone must take time to sit still and watch the leaves turn."

Elizabeth Lawrence



Building and Grounds

Buzz Henifin

Please mark your calendars. There will be a B&G Committee meeting at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, October 7, 2014. The primary purpose will be to prepare for the November 8, 2014 workday. Additionally we will review and update outstanding work list and wish list. As has been said before all church members, friends of the church and associates are considered B&G Committee members. Ya all come now!"

Session Notes

Earlene DeFazio

The Session met on September 8, 2014, Jerry Egger was Moderator.

Session approved spending up to \$1,500.00 to replace the office computer and purchase updated software.

The Personnel Committee is updating the job description for the finance/office secretary as we are looking to advertise to fill that position as Kaye is retiring at the end of the year.

The Deacons asked session to provide support for the Dabaj family in the form of letters from OVPC, as they seek asylum in the United States. This request was approved and a letter was prepared for the Elders to sign. This letter will be sent to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, our Senators and our Representatives.

The "Frequent Visitors" subcommittee asked for approval to begin preparing a New Members Handbook and class. This request was approved; the subcommittee will work on the handbook and report back to Session.

The minutes of the August meeting were approved; the financial statements for August were reviewed and accepted.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 9:05 p.m.

Deacons' Report

Mike Read

The Deacons approved and sent to Session a recommendation that the church send letters of support for the Dabaj family as they seek asylum status in the U.S.

The special mission offering for October will be the Peace and Global Mission Offering, formerly known as the Peacemaking Offering. Collection will be taken on October 5 as we celebrate World Communion Sunday. The September special mission raised \$615 for Meeting Ground.

The annual Deacons' Potluck Dinner will be held on Friday, November 7. Our guest speaker will be Eul from Renaissance Center.

Finally, the Deacons donated \$50 to the Olivet Presbyterian Church in Newark for the purchase of a chair. This church serves many worshipers who hail from Ghana.

Women's Sewing Circle

Amy Peoples



We are so happy to welcome our Interim Pastor, Reverend Jerry and his wife Reverend Marge Egger to our church! We hope that they will be very happy at Ocean View Presbyterian Church.

At our Circle meeting in September we were pleased to have Amy Hiner attend and make us aware of the warning signs of ovarian cancer. This was an important topic for us to hear about and Amy explained it to us very well. Our thoughts and prayers are with Amy and her family as she fights this disease.

At our meeting we learned that we are on our way to building a third well for our water4 Project. At the September 21 Coffee Hour, Bev Bailey will demonstrate how water4 is used. Be sure to be on the lookout for the ladies on the Mission Committee, who will wear their water4 hats that day. If you are interested in purchasing a water4 hat, they are \$11.50 a piece and can be purchased from anyone on Mission Committee. Every third Sunday will be water4 day and you can give donations to them for the well.

Our next Circle will be October 8 at 12 noon. Bring your sandwich or salad and hopefully refreshments and dessert will be served. I say hopefully because as of now we do not have volunteers to be hosts for that day. Please call Kathy or me if you can bring cookies or such.

At the meeting, Bev will be explaining Chapter 2, "Paul in the Context of Ancient Corinth". This is proving to be a very interesting study so come join us. If you do not have a study book, Marlene has them available for \$8.00.

Sunday, October 12, will be our Coffee Hour after church and our hosts will be the ladies of the Salt Pond.

During the October meeting we will form our Nominating Committee to look for new officers of the Circle for 2015-2016.

The Circle is in need of Prayer Shawls. We needed to borrow one from the Lutheran Church this past summer. Cathy Yantz suggested that we make Joseph Shawls. These shawls require nine inch squares that can be knit or crocheted and then sewn together. The hands of many lighten the work. The name comes from Joseph's coat of many colors. Kathy Yantz says that she will be glad to put the squares together for us. Those who would still like to make the original Prayer Shawls are asked to do so. Either style will be welcome to those who are healing.

continued on next page

Women Sewing Circle - continued . . .

Good news, 84 Britches were made last year and sent to Africa. Thank you ladies! There was a picture of little girls wearing the pillowcase dresses in the May/June Horizons Magazine.

Please don't forget our Fall Jumble, Saturday, October 11, with set up October 10. Liz has been getting the table leaders set up but we need items to sell: glassware, small household items, kitchen miscellaneous, linens, pictures, small working appliances, knickknacks, children's toys, jewelry, pies, cookies, and cakes for the bake table, books, plants, white elephants. If you have not been asked to help, please volunteer to Liz. Your help is needed and appreciated.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, October 8, 2014 at 12 noon. Come and join us, I think you will benefit from attending.



Potluck Dinner

**Deacons' Potluck Dinner and Hymn Sing
November 7 at 6 pm**

Guest Speaker- Eul Lee from Renaissance
Center

We will sing from song books used when we
lead singing at Renaissance Center

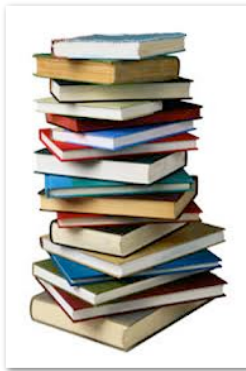
Fall Jumble

OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CENTRAL AVE JUST NORTH OF RT 26

Saturday, October 11, 2014

9 AM to 12 PM



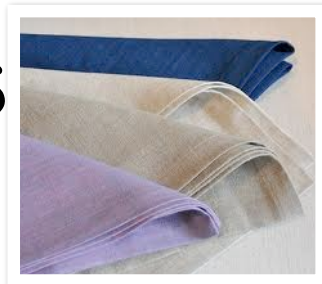
Books

Bake Sale

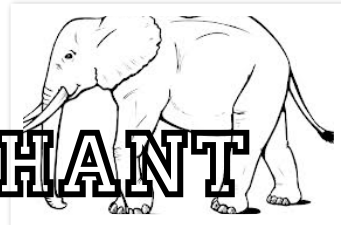


Linens

Plants



WHITE ELEPHANT



TO DONATE ITEMS CONTACT Kathy Sheetz (539-2827), Amy Peoples (732-3939)
or the Church office 539-3455

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO LOCAL MISSIONS



FELLOWSHIP PADS - Not Just For Visitors

Bob Wolf

By now you have noticed that the Fellowship Pads are back in our pews. We encourage you to record your attendance every Sunday and to pass the pad on to your neighbor. For our members, letting us know you were at worship, helps to reinforce our attendance numbers that are reported to Presbytery in our annual report but, more importantly, it helps us know that someone may be in need of our assistance if they have missed worship for a period of time. For our visitors, it gives each of us the opportunity to introduce ourselves and to encourage them to share their information with us so we can thank them for visiting with us and keep them up to date on what's going on within our church family. We want to make sure that they know that their visit to our church is important to us.

Christian Education

In October of 2014, CE will offer a series of programs related to death and dying that will be held each Sunday after church. Presentations will be scheduled as follows:

- October 5 - EMT Services (Are you Ready?).
- October 12 - Beebe Hospital, Presentation on Advanced Directives.
- October 19 - Delaware Hospice, End of Life Services.
- October 26 - Melson Funeral Home, Preparation and Memorial Services.

Ushers & Greeters



A Great Way to Serve

We still need folks to fill our Greeter/Usher schedule. You can volunteer for a week at a time or a month - or any other combination you like. Don't worry if you are signing up as a 'single' - we will be happy to pair you up with someone.

Please contact Elaine Wolf if you are interested in serving or have any questions or need a list of the duties- or you can just sign up. The schedule is on the bulletin board in the back of the church. We are asking that our Greeters wear name tags since they are the first people our visitors will see - please let Elaine know if you need a new name tag.

Reminders . . .

Elsie Young

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL

Are you working on your Devotional writing ? Bob has received TWO! The deadline is OCTOBER 12.

NATIVITY FESTIVAL

The Nativity Festival is scheduled for December 6. I am giving you a little nudge so you can be thinking about your CRECHE contribution(s). Display one or many. Carol Kratch has added some frames to our inventory, so she is waiting for your “stories”.

Questions? Call Elsie 539-8718

Nominating Committee begins its work . . .

Jen Read

Romans 12:1-8

The New Life in Christ

1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. 3 For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. 4 For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, 5 so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. 6 We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; 7 ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; 8 the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

We have begun the work of the nominating committee, finding members to fill the offices that will be so important in coming months. During this time of transition, it is critical that we each serve our church in the most effective way possible. Search your heart to identify your spiritual gifts. And when you are approached by a member of the nominating committee to serve, please consider sharing those gifts with our church.

Friday Night At The Movies



Mike and Jen Read will be hosting our next movie night and invite you to bring a favorite dish to share on October 3rd at 6:00 p.m. For more information please call (302) 539-0533.

At 7 p.m. we will be showing 'Places in the Heart' starring Sally Field, Lindsay Crouse, Ed Harris, and Danny Glover. Can a woman who suddenly finds herself a widow in the midst of the Great Depression save her children and her farm with the help of a couple of strangers who come into her life?

If you are unable to join us for dinner or dessert, please feel free to come for the movie.

If you have a special request for a movie, please let Bob Wolf know and we will do our best to obtain it.

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